

**RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF BIRCH HILLS NO. 460**  
**279 Bellamy Avenue, Birch Hills, Saskatchewan**  
**September 9, 2020**  
**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

---

**Present:** Reeve Alan Evans, Councillors Brent Fenner, Kyle Jensen, Leyton Elsaesser and Administrator Cherie Opseth.

**Regrets:** Councillors Mathew Njaa and Matt Robertson.

**A quorum being present Reeve Evans called the meeting to order at 8:32 a.m.**

**Councillor Ted Boutin joined the meeting at 8:41 a.m.**


The social distancing requirements due to COVID-19 were followed by Council and staff throughout the meeting.

**170-2020 Minutes: Jensen** That the minutes of the regular meeting held on August 12, 2020, be approved as circulated. *Carried*

**171-2020 Financial Statement: Jensen** That the statement of financial activities and bank reconciliation as at August 31, 2020, be accepted as presented. *Carried*

**172-2020 Accounts Payable: Elsaesser** That the accounts at September 9, 2020 as per the attached list of Cheques #15427 - #15466 and Other Direct Utility Payments of \$239,374.50 plus payroll in the amount of \$24,166.00 totaling \$263,540.50 be approved. *Carried*

**173-2020 Correspondence: Fenner** That the following correspondence be accepted as presented:  
WSA – Funding Allocated under the Channel Clearing Program  
WSA – Hamlet of Brancepeth  
    – Precautionary Drinking Water Advisory  
WSA – Hamlet of Brancepeth  
    – Rescinding Precautionary Drinking Water Advisory  
Queen’s Bench for Saskatchewan – Cold Storage Decision *Carried*

**174-2020 Committee Reports: Boutin** That the following committee reports be accepted as presented and filed with these minutes:  
**Invasive Plant Management Committee**  
**Health Foundation**  
**Fire Department**  
**First Responders & EMO**  
**Recreation Board**  
**Shop & Equipment**  
**Employee Relations**  
**Rural Crime**  
**Proposed Landfill Development**  *Carried*

**175-2020 Confirmation of the Assessment Roll: Evans** That the RM acknowledge the confirmation of the 2020 Assessment Roll by SAMA. *Carried*

**176-2020 Municipal Election Polling Places: Elsaesser** That all polling places for the RM of Birch Hills No. 460 be held at the RM of Birch Hills Council Chambers located at 279 Bellamy Avenue, Birch Hills, Saskatchewan. *Carried*

**177-2020 Municipal Election Advance Poll: Jensen** That the Council for the RM of Birch Hills acknowledges the date set for an advance poll for the 2020 Municipal Election be held on November 2, 2020 from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. as set by the Returning Officer.

*Carried*

**178-2020 Municipal Election Indemnity: Fenner** That the Municipal Election indemnity for the Deputy Returning Officer and Poll Clerk be set at \$20.00.

*Carried*

**179-2020 Hamlet Allotment: Evans** That the allotment for the Hamlets of Brancepeth and Hagen be set at 75% of the taxes levied and that the remaining 25% be allocated for administration fees.

*Carried*

Reeve Evans declared a conflict of interest prior to the opening of the tender for the Tax Title Property for sale in the Hamlet of Hagen. Deputy Reeve Elsaesser opened the tender.

**180-2020 Tax Title Property: Jensen** That the Council for the RM of Birch Hills accept the sealed tender offer of \$200.00 as submitted by Alan Evans for the Tax Title Property located at Lot 19 Blk/Par 1 Plan No. CM5018 Ext. 0 in the Hamlet of Hagen, as advertised for sale in July of 2019 as per resolution 130-2019 and again in August of 2020 as per resolution 168-2020, to which only one tender was received. The acceptance of this tender is subject to the following terms:

- The successful bidder has 30 days to provide payment to complete the purchase;
- The successful bidder is responsible for any legal fees incurred due to the transfer of title of ownership of the property; and
- The successful bidder is required to bring the condition of the property into a state deemed safe by the Council of the RM of Birch Hills No. 460 within one year of obtaining title to the property.

*Carried Unanimously*

Reeve Evans abstained from voting

**10:04 a.m. In Camera: Jensen** That Council move in camera to discuss legal matters pertaining to the Fire Department billing from the Town of Birch Hills for the June 14, 2020 State of Emergency, the Cold Storage decision from the Queen's Bench for Saskatchewan, the Civic Centre and Northern Lights Railway.

*Carried*

**10:40 a.m. In Camera: Fenner** That the regular meeting of Council be reconvened.

*Carried*

**181-2020 Cold Storage: Fenner** That the RM consult with the Town of Birch Hills Building Official to obtain approval for a method of obtaining a fire rating of not less than one hour prior to initiating the work to remedy the deficiency in the Cold Storage Building.

*Carried*

**182-2020 Fire Department Billing: Fenner** That the RM send a letter to the Town of Birch Hills for clarification and a request to have Invoice #2020-00036 amended to reflect the actual hours the Fire Fighters and Fire Equipment attended to the State of Emergency declared by the RM Council on June 14, 2020 as per the PECC reports.

*Carried*

**183-2020 Adjournment: Boutin** That the meeting be adjourned at 11:04 a.m.

*Carried*

Certified correct this 21 day of October, 2020.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Administrator

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Reeve